REMARKS

Claims 1, 3-5, 7-12, 17, 18, 47, 49-51, 53-58, 63 and 64 were examined in the Office Action under reply. Applicants note with appreciation the withdrawal of all of the previous rejections.

The claims now stand rejected solely under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting over U.S. Patent No. 6,117,983. Applicants are submitting a Terminal Disclaimer over the '983 patent. Accordingly, the obviousness-type double patenting rejection has been overcome and withdrawal thereof is respectfully requested. Applicants are also submitting a voluntary Terminal Disclaimer over related Patent Application Serial No. 09/564,414.

Applicants also request to be informed of the status of the Request to Correct Inventorship filed November 10, 2003.

¹ Applicants note the Office Action states claims 1-12, 17, 18, 47-51, 53-58, 63 and 64 are pending. However, claims 2, 6 and 48 were cancelled in the response submitted September 16, 1998.

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CONCLUSION

Applicants respectfully submit that the pending claims define a patentable invention. Accordingly, allowance is believed to be in order and an early notification to that effect would be appreciated.

Please direct all further communications in this application to:

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Respectfully submitted,

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